

THE MAGAZINE OF TRINE UNIVERSITY

# TRINE

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Get your hands  
on some

# great written works

**"I can't believe we  
have these in Angola."**

**"I can't believe Trine  
was able to get  
them for us."**

**"I can't believe I can  
actually touch them  
and hold them in my  
hands."**

## The Remnant Trust

loans collection of early and first-edition books, documents and manuscripts

Nearly 1,200 students and visitors have held and read from a collection of rare books and documents and Trine has The Remnant Trust to thank. The trust is a collection of more than 1,300 works that focus on individual liberty and human dignity.

"We have gone from Socrates to Snooki and The Remnant Trust is attempting in some small way to no longer merely credential students but educate them," trust founder Brian Bex said, referring to a reality television star Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi of "Jersey Shore" and America's obsession with following celebrity exploits rather than civil conversation or scholarly pursuits.

"In some small way, we hope to encourage discussing great ideas in original form, having a civil conversation with people you disagree with, without the politics and personality attacks," Bex said. "We want to spur a civil conversation."

At Trine, the pieces on loan inspired the annual Humanities Symposium with several lectures developed around the collection. On Nov. 19, the Humanities Symposium featured "The Speech that Redefined America: Remembering the Gettysburg Address." Mark Helmke, an instructor in the Department of Business & Finance, explored the speech's lasting significance to mark the 150th anniversary of the Gettysburg Address, which was one of the items on loan.

The mission of the trust ([www.theremnanttrust.com](http://www.theremnanttrust.com)), a public educational foundation based in Winona Lake, Ind., is to elevate the public's understanding of individual liberty and human dignity, raise consciousness of the documents that have shaped America and lift the spirits of each generation to think the grandest thoughts. The trust also focuses on being "the world's finest repository of the great ideas that have propelled man through the centuries from earth to the stars."

Though the collection is comprised of rare and early works, the trust encourages visitors to hold and look through the works. Remnant Trust president Kris Bex shares the founder's wish that the rare finds be read, touched and enjoyed, not simply locked away to be kept safe.

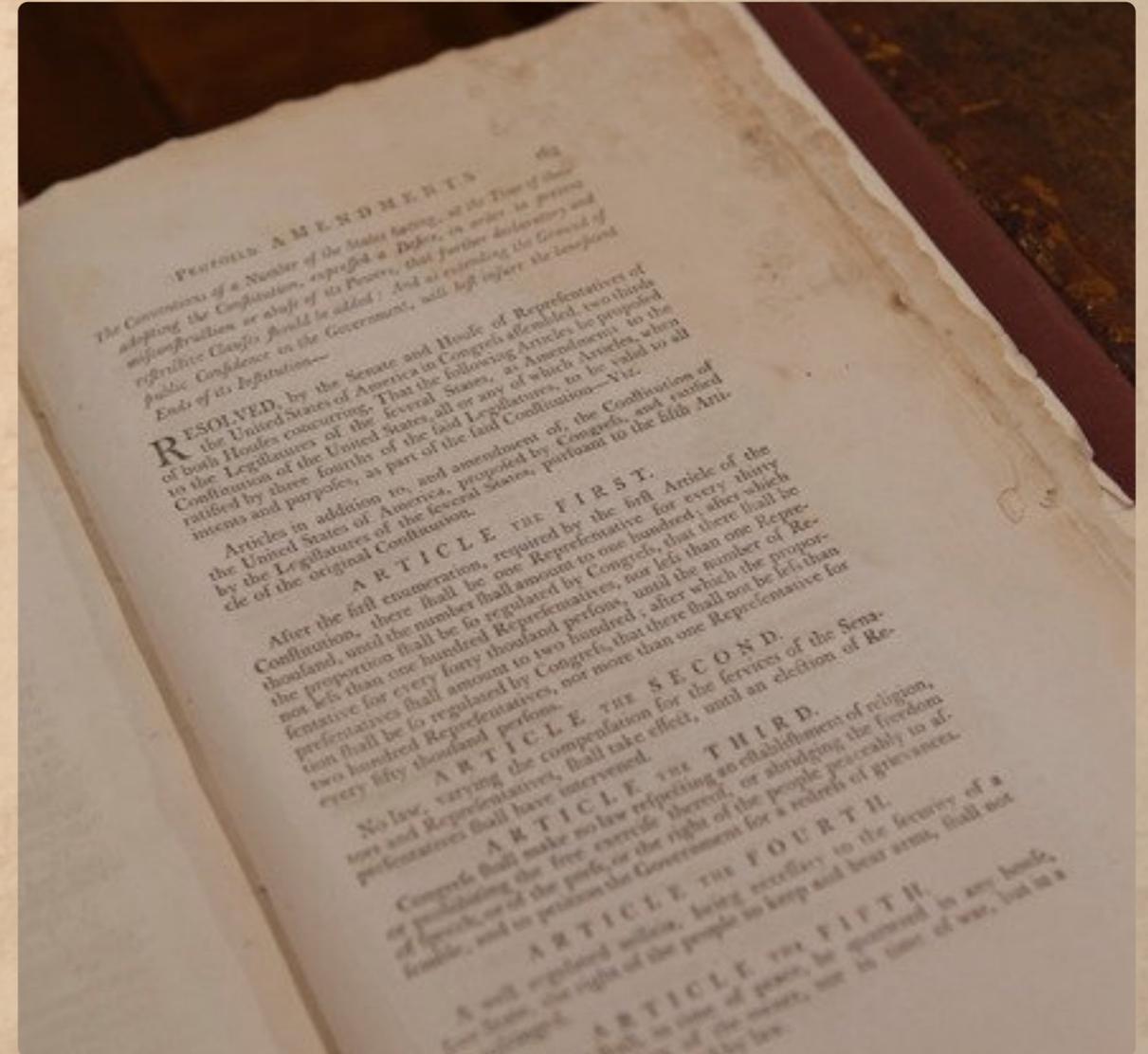
For many, this could be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to have access to early editions of some of humankind's greatest books and documents, said Tom Tierney, Ph.D., Trine professor emeritus who oversees the collection loaned to Trine. In fact, the great scholarly libraries of the United States, such as the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., the Newberry in Chicago and the William Andrews Clark in Los Angeles, will only allow credentialed scholars into their collections, he said.

"Trine is grateful to offer these rare finds for the benefit of our students and the community," said Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., Trine president. "Many professors are using the collection to enhance their classes and all students are encouraged to get their hands on these pieces. The ability to offer individuals such a unique opportunity to not only see but hold such works is a privilege."

Coming this month and remaining through early May is a different collection of 50 early and first-edition books, manuscripts and documents. Among highlights are an 1814 Hebrew Bible; "Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass" by Frederick Douglass, 1846; the Declaration of Independence, 1776; first-edition "Essays" by Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1841; the Magna Carta, 1576; first-edition "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand, 1957; "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare, 1785; "Communist Manifesto" by Karl Marx, 1888; and "The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection" by Charles Darwin, 1883.

Visit [trine.edu](http://trine.edu) to get hours to view the collection in Taylor Hall's Wells Gallery.

## A visit to the Remnant Trust headquarters



*Many books are on display at the Remnant Trust headquarters in Winona Lake.*

